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PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Balaram Sinharoy et al.

Before the Examiner:
Li, Aimee J.

Serial No.: 09/548,469

Group Art Unit: 2183

Filing Date: April 13, 2000

Title: USE OF SOFTWARE HINT FOR
BRANCH PREDICTION IN THE
ABSENCE OF HINT BIT IN THE
BRANCH INSTRUCTION

IBM Corporation
Intellectual Property Law Dept.
Internal Zip 4054
11400 Burnet Road
Austin, Texas 78758

SECOND REPLY UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 1.111

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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DEC 29 2003

Technology Center 2100

Dear Sir:


In response to the Office Action having a mailing date of September 25, 2003 (Paper No. 7), having a three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on December 25, 2003, please reconsider the rejections of the claims in view of the following remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 19, 2003.


Signature

Toni Stanley
(Printed name of person certifying)